

SEPTEMBER 25, 2019
WORK MEETING

The work meeting of the Hope Township Committee convened at 7:00 P.M. at the Hope Township Municipal Building with the following members present: Mayor Timothy McDonough, Deputy Mayor Christopher John Kruk and Committeeman Terry Urfer, Don Whitmore and Ted Rodman. Also present were Municipal Clerk, Judith Fisher, RMC, and Deputy Clerk Robin Keggan.

Under the provisions of the "Open Public Meetings Act", adequate notice of the meeting had been provided by publishing notice in The Star Gazette and The New Jersey Herald and by posting notices in the Hope Post Office and on the Township bulletin boards.

Reports:

Mayor Tim McDonough: Made note that the DOT is ready to conduct a meeting to address the mandatory vs. voluntary truck route through Hope Township. Millbrook Water Company was discussed and the fact that the need for their expenses thus far must be submitted so that we stay within our budget/allotted expenses being paid on behalf of the township. Mr. Stephens is supposed to be at the October meeting. Also, discussion took place regarding ordering a plaque for the Still (to be recognized at the 2020 Appreciation Dinner) and the fact that the sign for the Grange dedication is ready for pickup. Still working on a timeframe for the Deputy Clerk/Clerk positions to be put in place.

Deputy Mayor Christopher John Kruk: Mr. Kruk gave a wrap-up report of the 250th Celebration and how it was received by the community and public. All went well and it was successful. Discussion of the time capsule took place and the fact that the vet list will be printed and included in the capsule.

Committeeman Urfer: Mr. Urfer met with DEP on both the Montalvo property and the Campbell property. Copies of the business cards of the people with whom he spoke were handed to the Deputy Clerk for copying. The DEP is taking the lead on these properties and the Township will wait to hear what the DEP's report is on each property. Mr. Rodman and Mr. Urfer toured the town to look at areas with drainage issues (Smith Street and Union Brick Road). They reported that Smith Street needs a larger pipe to handle runoff of water. Mr. Urfer will consult with Mr. Selvaggi to discuss issue of pipe needing to cross over properties in Silver Lake. 1 or 2 catch basins on Smith Street would help to alleviate flooding. Possibility of putting in a speed bump to (1) slow traffic and (2) divert water to direction catch basin.

Union Brick Road was determined to need a swale with a bigger pipe to handle the water runoff. In August Mr. Urfer requested that Mr. Ayers provide him with any deed, survey or title work information he may have that would help to determine property boundary lines involved in the project.

Discussed the blower that needs to be purchased for the DPW. Cost has risen since budget time due to the warranty going from 1 year to 10 years. Mr. Urfer also made note that anyone working for the DPW should be wearing brightly colored clothing for their safety.

Mr. Urfer will speak to Mr. Selvaggi re: sending a letter to resident on Union Brick Road who installs posts in the right-of-way every winter with language to the effect that they may not be placed there and if they are they will be removed by the DPW at the resident's expense.

Township Engineer Report: Mr. Rodman reported that Cemetery Road is finished with the exception of the double-line striping. There will be no shoulder line painted. DOT came out to take core samples to test for density and thickness of new asphalt.

He also reported that he received a letter from Mr. Montalvo regarding the gravel brought in (not fill). That letter is being handed over to the Zoning Official.

A motion was made by Mr. Urfer at 7:15 to go into Executive Session for interview for the position of Deputy Clerk; seconded by Mr. Kruk. No official action was taken and at 7:50 a motion was made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk to return to open public session. All in favor.

Discussion:

Best Practices has come in. Mrs. Fisher began working on this year's questions vs. last year's questions for comparison. Kathleen Reinalda, CFO, needs to go over the questions as well before it is ready for Township Committee review and to be sent in to the State. It is due on October 30, 2019. We need 30-35 points to get 100% of our state aid.

Personnel Policy – Discussion took place with a few minor items that needed to be changed/added/deleted from the boiler point language of the policy provided to us from Mr. Wenner. Notes were made and the Clerk will be forwarding the changes on to Mr. Wenner for his inclusion into the Personnel Policy. A motion was made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk, to approve the personnel policy subject to the changes being put in place as provided to Mr. Wenner. All in favor.

A few dates were discussed as follows: The 2020 Township picnic will be September 12, 2020. The meeting date for the work meetings in November and December were changed due to holidays. November 26, 2019 is the new date for the work meeting in November while December 18, 2019 is the new date for the end-of-year meeting in December.

Seeing there was no other business for tonight, this meeting of the Hope Township Committee was adjourned at 8:46 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Urfer, seconded by Mr. Kruk. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith M. Fisher RMC
Municipal Clerk